

U.S. Department of Justice

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For Immediate Release:

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EVENT: Indictment

Defendant: Sisayehiticha Dinssa

FEDERAL GRAND JURY INDICTS MAN FOR CASH SMUGGLING AT AIRPORT

Sisayehiticha Dinssa, 34, was indicted by a federal grand jury in Detroit today on charges of bulk cash smuggling and making false statements to Customs and Border Protection officers, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced.

Murphy was joined in the announcement by Brian M. Moskowitz, Special Agent-In-Charge of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office of Investigations in Detroit and John C. Bates, Chief Patrol Agent for the Detroit Sector of Customs and Border Protection.

The three-count indictment charges that Dinssa attempted to smuggle \$78,883 into the United States at Detroit Metropolitan Airport. Dinssa was bound for Phoenix on an itinerary that originated in Nairobi, Kenya and continued to Amsterdam, Netherlands. The Indictment further alleges that Dinssa knowingly lied to Customs and Border Protection officers at Detroit Metropolitan Airport about the amount of currency in his possession. In addition, the Indictment seeks criminal forfeiture of the currency.

An indictment is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. A defendant is entitled to a

fair trial in which it will be the government's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The case was investigated by special agents of ICE and CBP officers. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Leonid Feller and Julie Beck.